



United States Department of the Interior



BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT

Battle Mountain District Office

50 Bastian Road

Battle Mountain, Nevada 89820

Phone: 775-635-4000

Fax: 775-635-4034

http://www.blm.gov/nv/st/en/fo/battle_mountain_field.html

In Reply Refer To:

3100 (NVB0000)

DOI-BLM-NV-B000-2016-0002-EA

JAN 13 2016

Dear Interested Public:

Pursuant to the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) and Council on Environmental Quality regulations for implementing NEPA, the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) Mount Lewis Field Office has prepared an Environmental Assessment (EA) which analyzes the impacts of the BLM-Nevada State Office (NVSO) offering, in competitive public auction, parcels for lease sale of oil and gas parcels in the Battle Mountain District.

In the process of preparing a lease sale, the NVSO sends a list of parcels, based on land nominated by the public, to each District where the parcels are located. The field office staff then reviews the parcels to determine:

- If they are in areas open to leasing;
- If new information has become available which might change any analysis conducted during the planning process;
- If appropriate consultations have been conducted;
- What appropriate stipulations should be included; and
- If there are special resource conditions of which potential bidders should be made aware.

This EA documents the review and environmental analysis of 44 of the 64 Battle Mountain District Office-administered parcels nominated in the June 2016 Competitive Oil and Gas Lease Sale. The EA verifies conformance with the approved Land Use Plan, provides the rationale for any lease stipulations applied to specific parcels, and identifies parcels proposed for deferral.

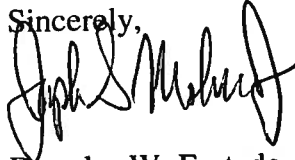
Written comments on this EA will be accepted at the above address until 4:30 p.m., February 5, 2016. The EA can be viewed on the BLM Battle Mountain District website at:

<http://1.usa.gov/1N0eOtO>.

Comments may also be submitted using the ePlanning comments submission or emailed to: blm_nv_bmdo_2016_OG_ea@blm.gov Before including your address, phone number, e-mail address, or other personal identifying information in your comment, you should be aware that your entire comment—including your personal identifying information—may be made publicly available at any time. While you can ask us in your comment to withhold your personal identifying information from public review, we cannot guarantee that we will be able to do so.

If you have any questions or wish to obtain a hard copy of this document, please contact Andrea Dolbear, Planning and Environmental Coordinator, at the above address or at 775-635-4000.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Douglas W. Furtado". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name being the most prominent.

FOR

Douglas W. Furtado
District Manager
Battle Mountain District Office